number of causal labourers had been decasualised in North East-Frontier Railway, but till date nothing has been done for their re-employment though assured by the Government from time to time;

(b) whether any measures have been taken by the Government for their re-employment; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

New Trains/Bogies for NCR

3153. SHRI B.L. SHARMA 'PREM' : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of feel concerned about the necessity of providing maximum facilities to the commuters from the towns in the National Capital Region as a measure of decongesting the capital; and

(b) if so, the plans of the Ministry for providing additional trains/bogies connecting the towns in the National Capital Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main Line Electrical Multiple Units, Electrical Multiple Units and Diesel Multiple Push-Pull services are being provided, depending upon traffic justification, operational feasibility and resource availability.

[Translation]

National Zoological Park

3154. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of various animals/birds in the National Zoological Park in Delhi as on date;

(b) the total amount spent by the Government on their maintenance during the last three years, item-wise;

(c) whether much attention is not paid towards the maintenance of the animals/birds kept here and even food is not provided to them on time;

(d) if so, whether the Government have received some complaints in this regard during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the remedial action being taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The total number of various animals/birds in the National Zoological Park in Delhi on 31.7.1996 is 1397.

(b) The total amount spent by the Government on maintenance of animals item-wise during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) It is evident from the items mentioned in the Annexure-I of reply at (b) above that sufficient attention is being paid for the maintenance of animals including supply of food as per their requirements. Further the Veterinary Officer at Zoo inspects the quality of ration daily before delivery and the Zoo Rangers, Head Keepers and even the Zoo Director takes round in the fields to ensure proper distribution of food and surprise checks are made invariably.

(d) and (e). Some news items have appeared in the press from time to time for lack of vetertinary facilities, poor quality of water in the animal enclosures and meats, inadequate display area for some animals etc.

(f) Steps taken to enhance care of animals in Delhi Zoo, includes the improvement of veterinary care and carrying out, in phases, the recommendations made by Central Zoo Authority for better housing facilities and upkeep of animals.

STATEMENT

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Items	Years		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4
1. Feeding charges for Zoo animals	39.18	43.79	49.96
2. Water Charges for providing filter water for animals	10.00 *	*61.00 (*including retrospective areas)	18.00
3. Electricity charges for cooling & heating arrangements and additional connections to animal enclosures.	14.00	20.00	21.50
4. Improvement of animals enclosure and major renovations to the Veterinary facilities.	17.72	34.89	34.51
5. Medicines for animals	0.84	1.69	0.80
6. Sanitary improvements and exchange of animals.	8.00	12.00	5.35
7. Repairs and maintenance of animal enclosures & other buildings.	36.52	31.11	39.00

1	2	3	4
Other misc. Expenditure including salary, wages of employees, security contracts, liveries, maintenance of vehicles etc	90.14	90.42	99.10

[English]

Calcutta Circular Railway

3155. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal has demanded to complete the missing link between Princepghat and Majerhat of the Calcutta Circular Railway and to electrify the entire stretch and laying the double track; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The entire 13.5 km. non-electrified single line project from Dum Dum Jn. to Princepghat has been commissioned in states for traffic by 17.6.90. except the part from Princepghat to Majerhat. Fresh Techno-economic survey for single line from Princepghat to Majerhat has been taken up by Eastern Railway. The Techno-Economic Study for doubling and electrification of Circular Railway has been taken up by West Bengal Govt. through M/s. RITES.

Conversion of Land

3156. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total area under cultivation for cash crop during 1994 and 1995;

(b) the extent to which the area has been converted from food crops cultivation into cash crops cultivation during the said period, State-wise; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Union Government to promote the cultivation of food crops and to prevent this conversion?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The area under cultivation of cash crops during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is as follows :

Crop	Area in Thousand Hectares	
	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3
Oilseeds	26897	25260
Sugarcane	3422	3815
Cotton	7321	7925
Jute and Mesta	885	944
Coconut	1635	1669
Potato	1047	1089
Onion	368	384

(b) The total area under foodgrains during the last two years i.e. 1993-94 and 1994-95 was 122.75 and 123.55 million hectares respectively. Thus at the All India level there is no diversion of area from foodgrains to other crops. The State-wise position of cropped area under foodgrains is given in the statement enclosed. Marginal decline in area under foodgrains during 1995-96 in the States of Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra etc. is attributed to weather fluctuations.

(c) In order to increase the production and productivity of the foodgrains, various centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented namely, Integrated Cereal Development Programme based on Cropping System areas for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals. National Pulses Development Programme is also being implemented.

STATEMENT

State	Area (Thousand Hectares)	
	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	6870.9	6660.0
Arunachal Pradesh	189.9	188.5
Assam	2740.6	2667.7
Bihar	8710.8	8685.3
Goa	65.9	65.9
Gujarat	3992.2	4202.3
Haryana	3894.9	4026.8
Himachal Pradesh	850.2	849.2
Jammu & Kashmir	888.7	888.7
Karnataka	6983.6	7078.9
Kerala	541.0	534.0
Madhya Pradesh	17721.0	17496.8
Maharashtra	14188.1	13531.4
Manipur	164.6	165.5
Meghalaya	131.9	130.1
Mizoram	75.6	80.2
Nagaland	184.3	186.3
Orissa	5772.0	5776.2
Punjab	5861.7	5921.4
Rajasthan	11628.9	12907.7
Sikkim	76.1	75.1